

Lester's World

A comedy sketch idea by Jonathan D Steinhoff, copyright 3.3.13

(SCENE: A meeting in a small, press conference room-size auditorium. On the stage at a table sit LESTER and THE TRIBUNAL, who speak to EVERYONE ELSE.)

WALTER (WALTER OF THE TRIBUNAL)

Before we begin, Lester asked if he could first just, you know, begin with a few words of apology again (**a groan goes out from EVERYONE ELSE**). He, uh, he just wants to apologize again for, you know.....

STEVE (STEVE OF THE TRIBUNAL)

You don't have to apologize again, Lester. Everyone knows how you feel, we ALL forgive you. (**a little cheer goes out from EVERYONE ELSE**).

LESTER

All the same, if I could just tell everyone how much I.....

WALTER

You already did do that at the LAST meeting. And the one BEFORE – ALL of the meetings. Let's just move past this, Lester, and you can tell us all about how The Device is NOW, not how it was BEFORE, okay, Lester? Lester? Oh, c'mon, Lester! Would you please stop sobbing! Oh okay, go ahead, SAY a few words of apology again, I don't know why I should give a.....

LESTER

Thank you, Walter, other members of The Tribunal, Everyone Else. Again– I am SO SORRY! When I came up with The Device, and, I thought, you know, I thought it would work REALLY good, only instead, we all came here, to this room, to see it work, to try it for the first time, and we saw, what we saw was, we, we.....

MARY LOU (from the middle of the room, tearfully)

It's okay, Lester!

LESTER

What we saw was, everyone in the whole world VAPORIZED or something, except the people sitting in this room here, us, The Device protected itself, and that meant protecting us. And that's why we're here.

STEVE

Never seen anything like it!

LESTER

I had NO IDEA that could even happen. It was like, like something out of a science fiction movie! You know? Who ever HEARD of technology that could wipe out everyone? That could destroy EVERYONE?

BILL (BILL OF THE TRIBUNAL)

Okay, I have to say something now. Lester, no one remembers this, because you programmed The Device to wipe out everyone's memory of this (I overslept that day and missed it). This was NOT the first time The Device did this. You had the first demonstration of The Device on national television a few years ago, okay, and that's when half the world was destroyed, by accident. So, but somehow, you said they were somewhere and you could bring them back, and that's when it did it again, half of everyone left. This has been going on a while, Lester. I'm sorry to have to break it to you, 'cause I like you, Lester. You're a fine person.

LESTER

I don't remember anything about any of that. Anyway, and so, but I just want to say again, how deeply sorry I am, about that mistake. And I've worked out all the kinks, and it will NEVER happen again. In fact, I've been doing a lot of work on The Device, and it's going to work really good this time! (**THE TRIBUNAL and EVERYONE ELSE give out an enthusiastic cheer**)

WALTER

I just wanna say, now that everyone else on the entire planet is gone, just poof, gone, you're the big brains of this here outfit! You're our scientific genius whose gonna, you're like The Professor on "Gilligan's Island"!

LESTER

I don't deserve you guys! Who else would be so..... okay, now, alright, so can I tell you what The Device can do now? It's incredible! (**begin pull back and FADE OUT**) Now that we're all that's left of humanity, I added this button, it can be programmed with a natural selection command to invent a new evolutionary development that it can genetically arrange into our DNA! Hopefully, I mean. I was working on this a long time, especially after last time, really don't want THAT to happen again....

THE END